

Fairy Tale



Have We Out-formatted Ourselves?

In the beginning, shortly after Heaven and Earth were created, movie film, cameras, and projectors were conceived. Film widths jumped all over the place with sprocket holes along the side or down the center. A lot of people got together and liked a width of 5/8 of an inch. They marveled that it was the same as 16 millimeters. The reason that size was selected was because a man's forefinger was that width and would fit in between the film reel sides. Something like the distance from a man's nose to his thumb, and they called it a yard. An old deaf guy who was tired of hearing all this said, "That's a good idea, let's go out and play in it." And so they went out in the yard, only in Re-Write they called it a lawn. And so that is how baby on the lawn movies got started.

For many years it was believed people got married just to have babies to put on the lawn, so they could shoot motion pictures of them. Then it was found a movie camera

was a nice thing to take on vacation trips. Many rushed home to view the film to see where they had been.

Someone dreamed up an 8mm film width and that caught on for several years. But they didn't make people's fingers smaller to fit into the narrower reels. Then came the Super 8 format. In every case it meant people had to buy new cameras and projectors. Hold on, you haven't heard anything yet.

Someone saw a slant front washing machine with the round window. They thought "wouldn't it be cool to be able to see a moving picture in that window other than suds. Thus the first television sets were invented to "hook" housewives everywhere to look at "SOAPS." They fit perfectly in the windows of old washing machines. Since then the manufacturers have been falling all over themselves trying to spoon feed the public to try our system "it's" better than the other guy's.

There are so many video formats on the market scene, it boggles the new prospective movie makers mind. What should he buy first? Some of the systems are so costly, the wife has to also work to be able to afford to have babies to put on the astro-turf.

AMPS Movie Makers

Dedicated to the Interests of the Serious Motion Picture Maker

VOL. 6

JULY-AUGUST, 1996

NO. 4

The NOSE KNOWS

I made home movies from 1945 to 1979 on 16mm film, and from 1978 to 1990 on Super 8 and Fuji Single 8 film. All of these movies have been kept on reels in cans since they were made.

Can No. 1 contains about 200 feet of 16mm Ansco black and white, and about 100 feet of Anscochrome, all exposed and processed in 1945. There is some odor, not particularly acidic in this can. The color images show much deterioration in the yellow and cyan layers. The Ansco Safety label appears on all of this film. There appears to be no distortion or evidence of shrinkage in any of this film.

Can No. 2 contains 400 feet of Ansco black and white film which was exposed and processed during 1947 through 1950. There is a sharp acidic odor coming out of this can. About
continued on page 3

Rose Dabbs Honored

New York, May 18, 1996 At a luncheon of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Club, Rose Dabbs was presented an Honorary Life Membership in the American Motion Picture Society. She has been a firm supporter of AMPS, and has rightly been named our Patron.



Rose Dabbs receives an Honorary Life Membership in AMPS
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Movie Makers

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Vol. 6 July-August No. 4

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George W. Cushman
Founder 1909-1996

Howard Lewis, Editor

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SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES

CANADA, Margaret Chamberlain, 2701 Arbutus Rd., Victoria, BC V8N 1W8

NEW ZEALAND, George Shannon, 107 Ballance Street, Gisbourne 3801

TRIVIA

What was the attraction that drew the largest crowd at the 1935 California Pacific International Exposition in Balboa Park, San Diego?

answer on page 4

FAMOUS LAST WORDS:

In all cases, the decision of the judges is final.

Kathryn Dillon

Editors note: This is the 31st in a series of articles on the subject of judging films and videos in Festivals and Competitions.

GET REAL

How do you live your life? Chances are you get up, shower, dress, eat a bite of breakfast, and go to work. There is probably no crisis in your daily routine. Your car does not explode off a cliff in a ball of flame. Everyday life is not like that.

Why should a movie maker create bizarre situations? Sometimes wanting to try a special effect to see how it works is the only reason. A movie with wild dangerous action scenes seldom gets a raised eyebrow from the judges. Give a movie a story line with a meaning, you are on your way to making a winner. Make it real to the viewing audience's eyes.

Who would ever select the setting of an apple orchard, with a little snow on the ground for a movie setting? No symphonic music, other than a squeaky clarinet as background. No dialogue-, but it was a winner. The title was simple and short too, it was APPLES.

Continued from page 1

Recently Eph Horowitz transferred a number of her films to video tape and showed them at the Long Island Movie Club. They looked as exciting as they did over twenty years ago.

The Certificate proclaims;
FOR HER SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT
OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN THEIR INTEREST
IN THE MOTION PICTURE MEDIUM, AND
HER CONSTANT ENTHUSIASM AND GENEROSITY TO THE SOCIETY.



Bernhardt
Krimphove
enjoys the fun

by Carl Jaburg, the Metropolitan
Motion Picture Club, of New York.

AN ENTRY FORM IS WAITING FOR YOU

Write to
Mike Trippiedi
Festival Director
802 Frank Drive
Champaign, IL 61821
(A SASE will help)

continued from page 1

200 feet, processed mainly during 1948 and 1949 shows some evidence of shrinkage and does not wind on the reel evenly. All of the film in this can has been projected recently with no problems, however.

Can No. 3 contains 400 feet of 16mm film which was exposed and processed during 1951 and 1952. There is very little odor in this can of film and no evidence of shrinkage or distortion. None of my film which was exposed and processed from 1951 until the present time shows strong odor or evidence of distortion of the film base. Of course there is some deterioration of color images which is to be expected in view of the instability of azomethine dyes in the presence of acidic substances, for example combustion fumes in the air in many homes.

While I was employed by GAF Corporation from 1944 to 1950 I recall that there was a period during the late 1940's when cellulose acetate film base was in short supply and it was difficult to purchase material of high quality. I suspect that it is film base manufactured at that time which is causing much trouble today in film archives.

by Carl Cline, Merriam, Kansas.

CLOSED SHUTTERS

IRENE CAHILL

Irene Cahill of North Manly (Sydney) Australia passed away suddenly from a heart attack May 18, 1996. She had recently attended the Federation Convention at Newcastle over the Easter week end.

Her husband Merv Cahill preceded her in death May 15, 1990. Almost 6 years to the day. He and his wife were avid movie makers and hard workers in Federation activities. Merv was the Motion Picture Division Australian Representative for the Photographic Society of America for a few years.

KODAK'S NEW FILM

The future looks good that plain old movie film will be around for a long time. No need to roll over and play dead at the mere mention of the Digital Revolution. Film is fed into computers so artists can remove visible cables, and such a thing as a car can fly through the air. Or images can be removed and replaced with other images, letting performers who never met, apparently "act" together. Think of the possibilities with budget minded picture producers.

Kodak announced a new generation of film stock, which will be marketed under the "VISION" label. The new stock is being complimented by some of the industries best cinematographers.

Film has come a long way in the last few years. It has become so sensitive that previously un heard of lighting effects are possible. Photographic film came out of the 19th Century, but no one has come up with anything close to it in capturing images and re-creating them on the screen. We hope film will be around for another Century.

A TIGER IN THE CAGE

News reports of the Digital Video Discs about to hit the market are somewhat premature. The Manufacturers are trying to figure a way to prevent the duplication of their Copy righted discs. They have all been burned by the piracy of their Video tapes, Compact Discs, etc. The US and China are in negotiations to stop the manufacturing of counterfeit

continued on page 9

ANSWER. Continued from page 2

The working demonstration of Television was seen by the public for the first time.

(If you guessed it was the Nudist Ranch, you were wrong).

HERE'S HAROLD HERE'S GARY HERE'S BRYAN HERE'S JUDY HERE'S ALAN HERE'S DAVID

Those names above are for starters for a fine program Margaret Chamberlain and her board have put together for the big Convention planned in Victoria, B.C., Canada this October 3, 4, 5, 6th, 1996.

Harold Cosgrove from Niagara Falls has two programs. "Making Better Movies" and "Magic Moments."

Gary Shumyla, from Richmond, B.C. will talk and demonstrate Panasonic's new 'Digital Camcorder.'

Bryan Belfont from Vancouver B.C., has a program, "From Analog to Digital," what it all means.

Judy Somers from Victoria, B.C. will tell us "How to make a Professional Production on a low budget." She teaches at the University of Victoria.

Alan Burgess of Auckland, New Zealand will exhibit some Video productions of the Auckland Movie Makers, Inc. He is an Officer of the Federation and will talk on the Movie outlook in N.Z. David Cooperstone of Van-

couver, owns a business 'The Studio,' and will demonstrate the latest in Videonics equipment.

If you have not registered, or thought about going to this Convention, time will soon be running out. A Self Addressed envelope with a dollar for mailing expense will help. Send any old dollar you have, Canadian, or United States. Send your request to: Margaret Chamberlain, 2701 Arbutus Road, Victoria, B.C., CANADA, V8N 1W8.

BUT DID HE GET THE PICTURE?

On May 17, 1996 Falco Traber, of the famous Traber family, walked 2,116 feet on a 1.1 dia. high wire 65 feet above the street in Baden Baden in the southwest of Germany.

The next day a report said a tight rope walker died yesterday hours after losing his balance and falling 50 feet from a wire stretched more than 1/3rd of a mile over Baden-Baden. Lutz Scheeyer, 26 fell in front of about 15,000 people who gathered Thurs. nite to watch the Traber family. Traber just completed his walk when Schreyer, wearing a helmet with a Video camera to record the feat, lost his balance shortly before reaching the end.

Associated Press

WHAT'S NEW?

Video technology at the Millenium

The word is DIGITAL. By the year 2000, we will witness a dramatic shift to digital Video. Rental movies on videotape will be displaced by DVD (Digital Video Disk). Already SONY, JVC and Panasonic have new digital camcorders using DVC (Digital Video Cassette) that record digitally on tape. These Digital Video Cassettes can be copied and copied again without losing quality. This is the tremendous advantage of digital recording.

TAPELESS EDITING: Video editing is now possible using personal computers with high capacity hard disk drives. This new tapeless technology is called non-linear editing. Although too costly for the average consumer today, video enthusiasts interested in editing their home videos will migrate to digital editing within a few years.

For non-linear editing, the digital video images are transferred to the computer's

hard drive. One of the traditional problems associated with copying signals from video devices to computer hard drives has been slow data transfer speeds. To date, the Small Computer System Interface (SCSI) has been the industry standard for connecting devices that required high data throughput.



FIREWIRE TO THE RESCUE: But a new, higher-speed interface for data transfer, called the Firewire, will be introduced this year. This blazingly fast serial interface standard has been endorsed by Apple, IBM, SONY, Matsushita and Microsoft. Firewire can support data transfers of 100 megabits per second. It can achieve rates up to 8 gigabits per second.

Finally, computers will be equipped with a low cost interface that will allow us

to transfer digital video to computers for editing.

BIGGER DRIVES, LOWER COST. Hard drive prices are falling rapidly. Less than a year ago a 9 GB (GigaByte) hard drive, capable of storing about 30 minutes of broadcast-quality video cost more than \$6000. Today, they can be purchased for under \$1900.

Manufacturers plan on shipping 18 GB drives later this year and IBM is developing a TB (1 Terabyte) hard drive. This is a trillion byte drive. In other words, one million megabytes.

A SIMPLE EDITING SUITE: Imagine an editing facility where there are no editing decks. All you will need in the future is one camcorder and a Firewire cable that connects it to your computer.

After you have shot your video with your digital camcorder, hook a cable from your camcorder to your PC (Personal Computer) and copy the raw footage to your hard drive disk drive. Edit everything on the computer, add special effects, titles, and sound, then copy the edited masterpiece back to dig-tape using your Camcorder.

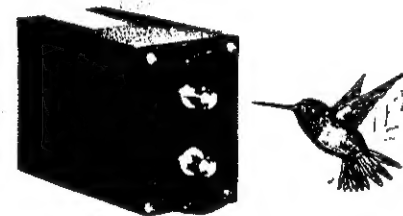
PERFECT COPIES: Because it is digital, you can use the edit master to copy as many

times as needed without losing picture quality.

OTHER GOODIES: Intel Corporation's new Pentium MMX (MultiMedia eXtensions) will be available shortly. This new computer chip is designed to support full motion video and audio on a personal computer. You'll be able to watch complete movies on Digital Video Disks using your computer.

by Joe Davis, Technical Writer for the PROJECTOR, San Jose Movie/Video Club.

HUM DINGER



They say the reason a Humming Bird hums is, it doesn't know the words. It is not funny when it is in a Video line, due to a difference in ground potential.

There is a Hum Stop Coil HSC-2 made by Audio-Video Engineering Co., of Merrick, N.Y. 11566. (516/546-4239) or (FAX 516/623-7213). The claim is that it will eliminate HUM and other interference.

MEET THE PREZ OF AMPS



Robert "Bob" Makara is an architect by Profession, with a bachelor's degree from the University of Detroit in 1967. He inherited his interest in movies from his father, who recorded their vacations with a 16mm Victor movie camera. That was about 1964 when Bob started. Now he uses 16mm Bolex cameras to record travel, documentary, and other types of films of his other interests that include Nature, philosophy, political/social issues, music, golf, and his dog Lily. Bob is not married. And he is not into Video at this time.

DRAGONS ... and the "want to believe" set.

You have either read about, or seen the motion picture Dragon Heart on your local movie screens. This is Hollywood's latest and most complex effort into computer-generated visual effects. It is 2 to 4 times the complexity of Jurassic Park, according to ILM (Industrial Light and Magic).

The dragon DRACO is 18 feet high, and 43 feet long, and did not weigh anything. He was created by 96 animators and technical directors,

manipulating 280,000 matrices. This is places where the lines defining the creature intersects and can be defined numerically for the computer. It was decided to make this dragon have a personality with emotions. The film background scenes are that of a Slovakian countryside.

At \$16,000 a second, the dragon accounted for \$22 million of the film's \$58 million budget. There were 182 computer generated shots. DRACO has 23 minutes on the screen. One scene when the dragon walks out of the night and shelters Quaid from the rain with it's wings took so much computer memory- 40 gigabytes, that they had to do it over a week end when ILM was closed down.

by Tom Green, USA TODAY

CORRECTION

In the most recent May-June issue of MOVIE MAKERS an error exists re: The closing date of the AMPS Film/Video Competition is- 8-1 (Aug. 1, 1996).

[NOT: 10-1 as was shown on page 11. Margaret Chamberlain pointed out, "That is a couple days before our Convention in Victoria."]

AMPS IS IN IT'S 6th YEAR
We are glad to have you
with us.

Tiger contd. from page 4.

products. Agreements are some times not worth the paper they are printed on. Just like the counterfeit money being generated in places in foreign countries (or right in our own country). The Governments might come to an agreement, but some scoff-law either doesn't get the message, or just simply ignores it. There is always someone out there ready to contrive how to beat one's system of protection.

HOW WE DO IT IN AMPS

We invite people to Sponsor Special Awards each year. We do not request a signed contract, or \$500 advance money. We trust our people to do what they say they will. Our group is based on mutual trust and good will of our friends.

If someone must discontinue for some reason, we simply ask someone else to take over.

We can see an opening for a Special plaque award for a youth category, for those under 18 years of age. It would be known as the Hiram Percy Maxim Teenage Award. The Award would be for the best Film/Video in their field.

WE FEEL YOUR PAIN

Do not think the Digital Revolution is unique only to the Video world. Amateur Radio Operators and manufacturerers are right in there making use of the "numbers game." The receive mode of Tranceiver benefits the most to reduce QRN and some QRM (static & interference (noise)).

These are a few items digitized.

Digital Low and High Pass filters.

Digital Modulation/Demodulation.

Digital Automatic Notch.

Digital Ultra-Narrow CW filter.

Digital Automatic APF. (Audio Peak Filter).

The descriptions above are some of the features found in the ICOM Transceiver IC-775DS. (suggested price approx \$4000). Move over Video malers, HAMS also have money to spend.

73 DE KB6VGF

AN ENTRY FORM IS WAITING FOR YOU

Write to
Mike Trippiedi
Festival Director
802 Frank Drive
Champaign, IL 61821
(A SASE will help)

KODAK LAUNCHES FREE FILM PROMOTION For 100 New Filmmakers

Los Angeles, CA June 11. Kodak has announced a promotion designed to help 100 emerging filmmakers around the world complete first or second projects as part of a motion picture industry centennial celebration. The company will donate up to 25000 feet of it's popular Eastman EXR 5287 (35 mm) color negative film, or 10,000 feet of Eastman EXR 7287 (16 mm) color negative film, to new producers who purchase an equal amount of film to use on a current or future project.

"Film is a relatively young art form," says Robert S. Woolman, worldwide marketing manager for the Kodak Professional Motion Imaging Business unit. "The first permanent cinemas opened in England and the United States in 1896. Kodak has been a part of the industry from the beginning. We are committed to nurturing new talent. This is one of many Kodak initiatives designed to help new filmmakers launch their careers."

Completed applications must be delivered to Kodak before Sept. 1, 1996. Filmmakers can request an application

and information by calling their local Kodak Professional Motion Imaging representative or by writing to Celebration Administrator, Eastman Kodak Company, 1017 N. Las Palmas, Hollywood, CA 90038.

S8 and SINGLE 8

To proud to give up on all you have invested in Super 8 Movie equipment? Subscribe to COMING ATTRACTIONS. A one year sub for US & Canada is \$9.99. Comes out 3 times a year (Mar-Jun-Nov). Coming Attractions 2248 Acosta St., Kettering, Ohio 45420 USA. They offer articles and adds of interest to the Super 8 & Single 8 people.

THE INTERNET

If P. T. Barnum was still alive, he would be astonished at the hype of all the wonders to be found by gaining access to the Internet for computer users.

If you know how to do it, you can see everything in the world displayed. If the kids tell Mama they are working with the computer, they could be looking at material appealing to prurient interests. What an education they may get.

YEAR	CLOS DATE	FESTIVAL NAME AND ADDRESS 1996	OPEN TO	SUB- JECT	FOR- MATS	TIME LIMIT	ENTRY FEE	AWARD	SHOW DATES
27th	6-15	CIAFF Canadian Intl. Annual Film/Video Festival Ben Andrews, Festival Director 25 Eugenia St., Barrie, Ontario L4M 1P6 Canada	ABD	G	HJM	30 Min	\$20 \$25 \$40	UVW	Oct 3- 6, 96
14th	6-25	Central Florida Film & Video Festival 15½ N. Eola Dr. #5, Orlando, FL 32801	ABCD F	G	MNO PJH	NONE	\$15 \$35	TUV	Sep 27 Oct 7
19th	7-12	Denver Intl. Film Festival 1430 Larimar Sq., #201, Denver, CO 80202	ABD E	G	JL	NONE	\$10 \$25B	W	Oct 17 25, 96
67th	8-1	American Intl. Film & Video Festival (AMPS) Mike Trippiedi, Festival Director 802 Frank Drive Champaign, Illinois 61821, U.S.A.	ABC DE	G	HJM NOP	NONE	\$5	TUV	Oct 3- 6, 96
36th	8-26	SAVAC Annual Contest Howard Lockwood, Competition Chairman 11370 Ruggiero Ave. Lake View Terrace, CA 91342	AB	G	HJM	20 Min	\$20	UV	Oct 3- 6, 96
41st	9-3	The 1996 Ten Best of the West Competition M. Aldersmith C/O 2701 Arbutus Road Victoria, B.C. V8N 1W8, Canada	AFR	G	MNO PHJ	20 Min	\$5	V	Oct 3- 6, 96
20th	9-10	Sao Paulo Intl. Film Festival A1 Lorena 937, CJ303 01424-001 Sao Paulo- SP BRAZIL	ABD	G	J 35m	NONE	NONE	U	Oct 18 Nov 1

N/A Not Announced or Not Available

A Non-commercial	D Independent	G Open	K Other	N S-VHS	Q Invitat.l	T Cash	W Other Awards
B College Student	E Commercial	H S-8	L 3/4"	O 8mm	R Regional*	U Trophies	X Approximate
C Hi Sch Gr Sch	F Restricted	J 16mm	M VHS	P Hi8	S Exceptions	V Certificates	Y It Varies

DO YOU KNOW?

By entering a Film or Video in the American International Film/Video Festival of AMPS, you are also qualifying yourself to be entered in UNICA (Union Internationale Du Cinema Non Professional). If your entry is judged good enough for the high quality requirements of UNICA, it is entered. You stand a chance to win additional medals and certificates. Be sure to get

your entry in early to Mike Trippiedi, Festival Director.

AMPS-USA has become a conditional Member of UNICA. This is an added benefit to our Members and participants. We are the only American representative.

NOTE: Will the Gentleman in Japan please send us a request for a 1996 Film/Video Competition entry form again. Our FAX Number is: (619) 697-1449.